CLEAN SET OF NEW CLAIMS

--13 (New). A physiologically acceptable salts of the compound according to at claim 1 with inorganic or organic acids or bases.

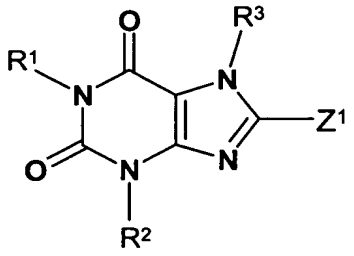
B1 Cont

14 (New). A pharmaceutical compositions comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable inert carriers and/or diluents.

15 (New). A method of treating a disease chosen from type I and type II diabetes mellitus, arthritis, obesity, allograft transplantation and osteoporosis caused by calcitonin comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

16 (New). A process for preparing the compounds of general formula I or the salts thereof according to claim 1, comprising

a) in order to prepare compounds of general formula I wherein R^4 is one of the groups mentioned in claim 1 linked to the xanthine skeleton via a nitrogen atom:
reacting under suitable conditions a compound of general formula (III)



(III),

wherein
R^1 to R^3 are defined as in claim 1 and

Z^1 denotes a leaving group chosen from a halogen atom, a substituted hydroxy, mercapto, sulphinyl, sulphonyl, sulphonyloxy group, a methanesulphonyl and methanesulphonyloxy group,

B1 cont

with a compound of general formula (IV)

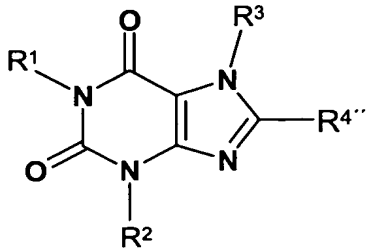
$$H - R^{4'} \qquad (IV),$$

wherein
$R^{4'}$ is as defined in claim 1 which is linked to the xanthine skeleton of general formula I via a nitrogen atom;

or

b) in order to prepare compounds of general formula I wherein R^4 according to the definition in claim 1 contains an amino group or an alkylamino group optionally substituted in the alkyl moiety:

deprotecting under suitable conditions a compound of general formula (V)



(V),

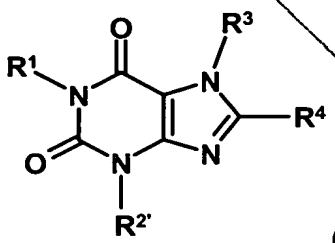
wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are defined as in claim 1 and
$R^{4''}$ contains an N-tert.-butyloxycarbonylamino group or an N-tert.-butyloxycarbonyl-N-alkylamino group, wherein the alkyl moiety of the N-tert.-butyloxycarbonyl-N-alkyl-amino group is optionally substituted as in claim 1;

or

B1 cont

c) in order to prepare a compound of general formula I wherein R^2 denotes a hydrogen atom:

deprotecting a compound of general formula (VI)



(VI),

wherein R^1, R^3 and R^4 are as hereinbefore defined in this claim and $R^{2'}$ denotes a protecting group chosen from a methoxymethyl, benzyloxymethyl, methoxyethoxymethyl and 2-(trimethylsilyl)ethyloxymethyl group;

and subsequently isolating the product compound of the general formula I or the salts thereof.--